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Burger Is Given A Free Trip in Litigant's Plane

Washington — (AP) — A spokesman for Chief Justice Warren E. Burger has confirmed that Burger and his wife used a plane owned by a litigant in a recent Supreme Court case for a free trip to Long Island, N.Y.

But the spokesman said yesterday that Burger was not aware that the owner of the plane, Bernard P. McDonough, of Parkersburg, W. Va., had ever been involved in a case before the court.

The case came up last January when McDonough sought a Supreme Court hearing on a bid to keep $612,000 he had made in a stock option deal. Burger voted against hearing McDonough's appeal.

Burger and his wife used the craft to fly to the wedding of Jeffrey Rogers, son of Secretary of State William P. Rogers, last weekend.

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